

Vocabulary

Hinduism – the religion

Hindu – a person who follows Hinduism

Deity – A God

Mandir – A Temple

Shrine – A cupboard or table containing all the things a Hindu needs to worship.

Dharma – right way of living

Moksha – freedom from the cycle of death and rebirth

Reincarnation – Life after death.

Puja – Worship



Om symbol

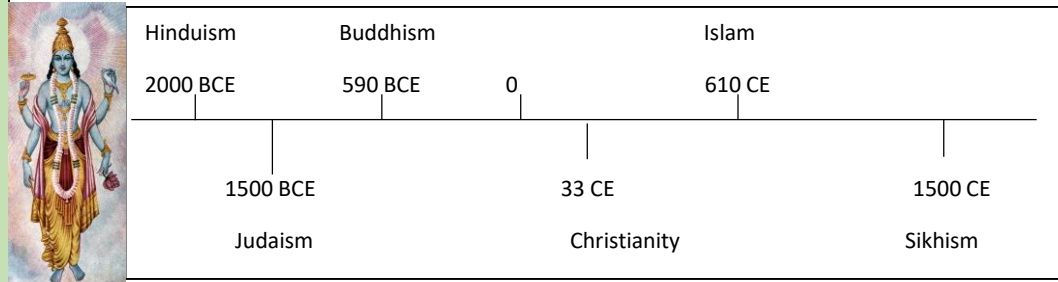
Hinduism

Main Festivals

Diwali, Holi, Maha Shivaratri, Onam

Sacred Text: The Vedas

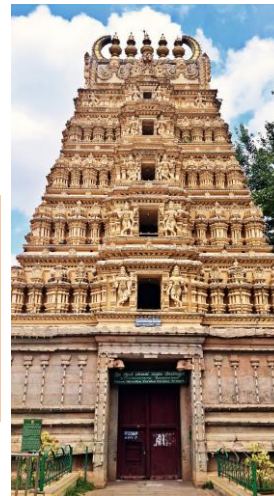
Timeline of Hinduism compared to other religions



Vishnu – is the preserver God he comes to earth in many forms – most famous Rama or Krishna.

Places of Worship:

- The Mandir
- A shrine at home



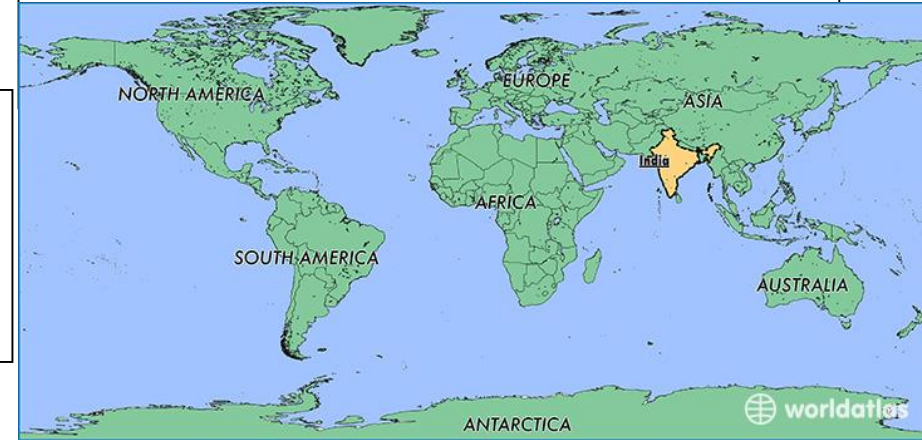
Hindu Temple is called a Mandir.



A home shrine containing one of the Hindu Gods – Ganesh - he is remover of obstacles and God of wisdom.

Where Hinduism Began: India

Map of the world showing India



Main Beliefs

Dharma-right way of living
Moksha-liberation of the soul from the cycle of death rebirth.

Reincarnation-after death of the body the soul enters another living thing

Truth-is eternal

Gods

One supreme being: Brahman

Popular Deities (Gods): Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva, Hanuman, Lakshmi, Ganesh.



Lakshmi– Goddess of wealth and purity.



Saraswati – Goddess of knowledge and music.



Hanuman – The monkey god – is god of courage and strength.

Other Hinduism facts:

Dedicated Hindus are vegetarian because they believe all creatures have souls. The cow is a sacred animal to Hindus as it produces milk so in India they are allowed to wander freely.

Shrines

What you would find on a shrine

- Photos/statues of Gods
- Flowers ad food offerings eg fruit
- Incense sticks
- Puja items which include:
 - Container for water
 - Spoon.
 - Incense holder
 - Bell
 - Container for Kum Kum powder
 - Diva lamp

Worship

How Hindus worship

- Worshipper must be clean
- Remove shoes
- Ring bell
- Light Diva Lamp and wave around
- Light incense sticks and move around.
- Place red powder as a dot on forehead of deity.
- Place red dot on own forehead.
- Say prayers
- Share food.